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EDITORIAL ITEMS.

THE PRESENT NUMBER.—That our readers may form an idea of the immense expense attending the publication of an illustrated work like the JOURNAL, we would state that the present number, of which we print *one hundred thousand copies*, is issued at an expense of over *ten thousand dollars*. The plain paper alone costing nearly two-thirds of that amount. The first designers and engravers in the city are constantly engaged on its illustrations, while the united services of *six steam power-presses* are required, night and day, to supply the extra copies required by the agents and honorary secretaries, who now represent the Association in all the principal towns and cities of the United States and Canadas.

The present number is sent to many persons who are *not* subscribers in the Association, in hopes that they may, after giving its *plan and object* a careful consideration, enroll themselves as members. We are confident that when the advantages derived by subscribing to the Association, are fully understood, that none can refuse to give so worthy a cause their earnest support. We trust, therefore, that the readers of the JOURNAL will, one and all, circulate it among their friends, and, if possible, get up clubs. There is no town, however small, but what a club could be easily gotten up. To all those who will interest themselves in the matter, we offer the following inducements for their trouble:

Any person sending a club of ten subscribers to the Association, and remitting \$30 to the actuary, will be entitled to the engraving, "Saturday Night," or any of the \$3 magazines, one year; also a copy of the ART JOURNAL one year, and ticket in the distribution of works of Art.

All who send a club of five names, *besides their own*, remitting \$18, will receive a copy of the splendid steel engraving, "Saturday Night."

All subscriptions should be sent in previous to the 28th of January.

We received lately from the proprietors, Messrs. W. P. Fetridge & Co., Franklin Square, of this city, a package containing samples of their celebrated "Balm of a Thousand Flowers," which, for several years past, has, like "household words," been everywhere in use. We speak from experience when we say it is certainly the most delightful article for the toilet it has ever been our good fortune to bring in use.

We believe it is claimed for the "Balm," that by its use a beautiful complexion may be easily acquired, removing, as it does, tan, pimples, and freckles from the skin.

The curse of a disagreeable breath is also speedily remedied by the use of this ingenious compound. It has been truly said that many persons do not know that their breath is bad, and as it is rather a delicate subject for their friends to mention, the only way is to use it constantly as a dentifrice, and thus insure a sweet breath. In cleansing the teeth, a single drop poured on your tooth-brush, is sufficient to render the teeth white as alabaster. The "Balm" is as cheap as it is good; a fifty-cent bottle, which can be procured of any druggist, will last a year or more.

"SATURDAY NIGHT."—We have received numerous letters of inquiry from all parts of the country, in relation to this beautiful steel engraving, and would state, for the benefit of all, that the Association will furnish it, in place of the magazines, to all who prefer it, notwithstanding its being a five-dollar print, and one of the largest and most costly engravings ever issued in this country. As an evidence of its great popularity, we would further state that, up to the present time, *over two-thirds* of the subscribers to the Association have ordered the engraving instead of the magazines. The engravings are carefully packed on rollers, and *go safely by mail*.

MAILING THE MAGAZINES.—That no delay may occur in mailing the magazines to subscribers of the Association, the management have adopted *new plans and regulations* at their mailing-office, whereby the *greatest dispatch* will be insured in future. Those taking the magazines for 1857 can rely on their being promptly and regularly mailed as soon as issued.

CANADA SUBSCRIBERS.—Our friends in the *British Provinces*, when remitting their subscriptions to the Association, will

inclose *thirty-six cents extra* in stamps or coin; as it is necessary to *pre-pay* postage on the magazines and engravings.

THE KNICKERBOCKER GALLERY.—Our readers will find a notice of this costly and beautiful volume in our advertising pages. The number of portraits of American writers, with an original article by each one, should give this book a place in every library, and for a holiday present nothing could be more appropriate.

We learn that the beautiful painting, "Gathering Apples," by Mr. JEROME THOMPSON, of New York, is now in the hands of one of the best engravers in the country, and in the coming spring will be ready for the public.

THOSE of our readers who do not fully understand the plan and objects of the *Cosmopolitan Art Association*, and the advantages derived by subscribing to it, are referred to the advertising pages in the front part of this number, where the plan and prospectus are given in detail.

IT WILL BE SEEN that the publication day of the Journal has been changed from October to November, in order to include the annual catalogue of works of art. The number for the next quarter will, therefore, not be issued until February, or immediately after the distribution on the 28th of January, when the transactions, drawing, &c., will be given in detail.

"THE COURT OF NAPOLEON."—We have been favored by the publishers with a peep at an advance copy of this superbly illustrated publication, entitled, "The Court of Napoleon; or, Society under the First Empire," by Frank B. Goodrich, Esq. The illustrations, sixteen in number, colored by hand, are from original, life-like portraits, in the Gallery of the Versailles. We learn that the cost of producing the first edition of this truly magnificent book is over *thirty thousand dollars*! A full description of the work, with its contents, &c., will be found on our cover.

NO POSTPONEMENT.—All persons designing to subscribe to the Association in order to receive the benefits of the annual distribution of works of art, should send in their subscriptions previous to the 28th of January next, as, under no circumstances, will a postponement take place.